

## Commissioning Skills Training

At a time of fiscal constraint, rising expectations and growing demographic pressures, commissioners of public care need a variety of methods which can help them to decide how best to allocate resources efficiently and effectively in order to achieve positive outcomes for children and their families.

This four-day programme will provide you with frameworks for redesigning services and achieving best use of resources. It is ideally suited to commissioning staff in children's services, to help them develop the skills required to commission, purchase and contract public, private and third sector services effectively.

The programme is designed to enable commissioners in local authorities and their partners to achieve better outcomes through good commissioning practice, and explores the links between strategic, locality and individual commissioning. It draws on the Commissioning Support Programme's work with local area partners in developing and implementing good commissioning practice and has been mapped to the national occupational standards for commissioning, procurement and contracting.

### Programme Information

This programme offers you an excellent opportunity to develop understanding and competence in commissioning and procurement of children's services. It is highly interactive and will provide you with practical tools, methods and skills as well as new knowledge.

The programme covers:

- The national commissioning agenda for children's services.
- Presentation of a framework for joint strategic commissioning in children and young people's services.
- Collaborative commissioning and working with a wide range of partners and stakeholders.
- Methods for managing knowledge and analysing the needs of the local population relating to children's services.
- Market shaping and influencing, including approaches to managing provider relationships and decommissioning services.
- Using outcome-based commissioning to develop innovative service responses.
- Engaging children, young people and their families in commissioning.



- An exploration of the issues facing children's services in relation to delivering more personalised services.
- Effective purchasing of services based on clear service specifications and appropriate contracting and tendering arrangements.
- Monitoring and review in commissioning and contracting.

## Logistics and Cost

This four-day programme will be held on **30 & 31 May** and **27 & 28 June** 2012 at OPM, 252b Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8XG.

The programme costs £650 per person, which includes course materials, refreshments, lunch and administration costs. To book onto this course or to register your interest please contact Chris Brennan at [ipc@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:ipc@brookes.ac.uk). Please note that we are only able to accept a maximum of 2 bookings per organisation on this course; contact us if you are interested in an in-house course.

## Accreditation

Are you interested in accrediting your learning and development from this programme? You could gain a formal postgraduate certificate of credit from Oxford Brookes University - worth 20 CATS points – to help with your Continuing Professional Development (CPD). It would mean completing additional, assessed project work following the course. This would cost an additional £600. If this is of interest to you please indicate this on your booking form or contact us to discuss this option.

## Further Information

The Commissioning Support Programme (CSP) provides improvement support across children's services and local government through better commissioning, productivity, system and service design.

The Programme was established in 2008 and originally jointly funded by the DfE and the DH until March 2011. We continue to work with children's services throughout the country, delivering Commissioning Skills Training programmes, and our [A-Z of Commissioning](#) training materials have now been developed as an [eLearning](#) package hosted by the National School of Government.

CSP has won the Children's Improvement Board tender to provide support to local authorities and progress the understanding and coordination of commissioning and productivity work from January through to April 2012. If you would like to know more about our work, visit the [CSP website](#).

If you would like further information, to book onto a course, or wish to discuss how we can help your organisation please contact Jane Taylor or Chris Brennan on 01225 484088 or email [ipc@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:ipc@brookes.ac.uk).